

REMARKS

The undersigned wishes to thank Examiner Jaworski for the courtesy of a telephone conference on November 24, 2003, during which the Examiner indicated that the pending claims (claims 2-8, 13-18 and 29-36) appear to be allowable. In accordance with this telephone conference, Applicant is submitting this Amendment to add claims of intermediate scope. Also, a minor, editorial correction is being made to Claim 1. The present Amendment is being submitted as a substitute for Applicant's previous, non-entered Amendment dated December 2, 1999, and that previous Amendment is hereby withdrawn.

More specifically, Claims 37-49 are herein being added. Claims 37 and 43 are independent claims directed, respectively, to a method of and to a system for imaging a biological sample. Claims 38-42 are dependent from Claim 37, and Claims 44-49 are dependent from Claim 43.

Applicant's Attorneys have made a special effort to be sure that Claims 37-48 are allowable with current independent Claims 2 and 13.

In particular, Claims 37 and 43 include basic limitations of Claims 2 and 13, respectively, and include the additional limitations that the input ultrasonic signal is at a fundamental frequency and has negligible energy in the second harmonic bandwidth of the fundamental frequency. The feature that this signal has negligible energy in the second harmonic bandwidth is specifically discussed on page 2, lines 23-31 of the application.

Claims 38 and 44 describe the feature that received signal components are digitized and then processed to produce an image. This aspect of the invention is discussed in the specification at, among other places, page 6, line 29 to page 7, line 4.

Claims 39 and 45 include, respectively, the step of, and a high pass filter for, filtering the received harmonic components of the reflected, distorted ultrasonic signal. This aspect of the invention is discussed, among other places, on page 6, lines 29-31 of the application.

Claims 40 and 46 describe the limitation that the high pass filtering is done before the digitizing, and this is discussed in the specification on page 6, line 25 to page 7, line 4.

Claims 41, 47 and 48 describe features of the transducer-receiver unit, which is discussed at several places in the specification, including page 6, lines 18-20 and on page 7, lines 10-15.

Claims 42 and 49 add, respectively, the step of and means for forming the image principally from the received second harmonic component signal. This feature is discussed in the specification at, among other places, page 35, line 24 to page 37, line 3.

It is believed that all of the pending claims, including Claims 37-49 added herein, are allowable and that the present application is in condition for allowance, a Notice of which is requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicant's Attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is asked to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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